

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01  
ACDA-07 IGA-02 IO-13 XMB-02 /102 W  
-----046483 251156Z /41

R 250602Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 481  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY RANGOON  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
USLO PEKING  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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USLO PEKING FOR SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: JA, US, ASEAN  
SUBJECT: JAPANESE BRIEFING ON FUKUDA VISITS TO ASEAN CAPITALS  
AND BURMA

REF: (A) TOKYO 12936 (NOTAL), (B) TOKYO 12977

SUMMARY. FUKUDA VISITS TO ASEAN CAPITALS AND RANGOON  
COVERED SAME AREAS AS KUALA LUMPUR SUMMIT BUT MOVED ON  
TO REQUESTS FOR SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN JAPANESE  
BILATERAL AID. NO PROMISES BEYOND CONTINUATION OF  
PRESENT AID LEVELS WERE MADE. JAPANESE FOUND REVIVED  
HUNGER FOR JAPANESE INVESTMENT AND SEE THIS AS PRINCIPAL  
REASON FUKUDA SO MUCH BETTER RECEIVED THAN TANAKA IN  
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1974. END SUMMARY.

1. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CALLED IN DCM AUGUST 24  
TO BRIEF US ON RESULTS OF FUKUDA VISIT TO FIVE ASEAN  
CAPITALS AND RANGOON. HE SAID, AS AT KUALA LUMPUR  
SUMMIT, FUKUDA HAD DOMINATED DISCUSSIONS IN SOLO  
PERFORMANCE. IN EACH COUNTRY SAME TOPICS HAD BEEN

RAISED AS AT SUMMIT, INDOCHINA, ECONOMIC COOPERATION,  
TRADE AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE.

2. IN BANGKOK THANIN REPEATED HIS CONCERN RE VIETNAM  
BUT HAD AGAIN APPEARED TO BE REASSURED BY JAPANESE  
INCLINATION TO PROCEED SLOWLY. THAI HAD STRESSED NEED  
FOR EXPANDED JAPANESE CREDITS. THEY HAD NOTED  
FOREIGN EXCHANGE GAP OF \$800 MILLION PER YEAR UNDER  
FIVE-YEAR PLAN AND THEIR WISH TO HAVE JAPAN COVER AT  
LEAST ONE-THIRD OF GAP. HE SAID THAI GAVE IMPRESSION  
OF HAVING FEW CONCRETE IDEAS ABOUT PROJECTS BUT SEEMED  
TO STRESS WATER DEVELOPMENT TO ASSIST IN HYDROELECTRIC  
POWER GENERATING AND IRRIGATION. YOSHINO SAID HE HAD  
BEEN SURPRISED AT FORTHRIGHT WAY IN WHICH THE KING  
SPOKE UP IN FAVOR OF HIGHER PRIORITY TO AGRICULTURAL  
DEVELOPMENT OVER INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

3. CONVERSATIONS IN RANGOON WERE LARGEY DEVOTED TO  
PHILOSOPHIZING BY NEW WIN. YOSHINO SAID HE DOES NOT  
EXPECT THAT BURMA WILL OPEN UP MUCH UNDER NE WIN.

4. IN JAKARTA, JAPANESE FOUND SUHARTO QUITE WORRIED  
ABOUT FOOD SHORTAGE DUE TO DROUGHTS AND THAT 1.5 MILLION  
TONS SHORTAGE MIGHT BE IN PROSPECT. INDONESIANS  
ASKED FUKUDA FOR DOUBLING OF AID AMOUNTS THAT NOW  
FINANCE PURCHASE OF THAI RICE.

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5. IN SINGAPORE FUKUDA FOUND LEE KWAN YU SPIRITED  
AND INTERESTING CONVERSATIONALIST. HE APPARENTLY WAS  
QUITE CRITICAL OF INDONESIAN ATTITUDES TOWARD ASEAN  
NOTING THAT OF 1,000 ITEMS PROPOSED FOR INCLUSION  
FOR ASEAN FREE TRADE AREA ONLY 70 HAD BEEN ACCEPTED,  
LARGELY BECAUSE OF INDONESIAN OPPOSITION.

6. IN MANILA MARCOS HAD PRESSED FOR DOUBLING OF  
JAPANESE AID FOR PROJECTS TO BUILD HOSPITALS AND  
SERVE HUMAN NEEDS.

7. IN ALL CASES JAPAN HAD TURNED ASIDE REQUESTS FOR  
ADDITIONAL BILATERAL AID AND HAD PROMISED ONLY TO  
CONTINUE PRESENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

8. DCM ASKED YOSHINO WHY HE FELT FUKUDA'S TRIP HAD  
BEEN NOTABLY SO MUCH MORE SUCCESSFUL THAN TANAKA  
VISIT OF 1974. YOSHINO REPLIED THAT BASIS PROBABLY  
LAY IN CHANGED ECONOMIC SITUATION. AT TIME OF TANAKA  
VISIT JAPANESE INVESTMENT SEEMED TO BE OVERWHELMING  
NATIONAL EFFORTS BUT NOW AFTER THREE YEARS OF RECESSION

ASEAN COUNTRIES ARE HUNGRY FOR JAPANESE INVESTMENT.  
IN THAILAND, FOR EXAMPLE, JAPAN'S INVESTMENT IN 1976  
HAD BEEN ONLY TEN PERCENT OF WHAT IT HAD BEEN THE  
YEAR BEFORE AND THAI ARE ASKING FOR MAJOR STEP UP.  
HE SAID FUKUDA HAD URGED THAI TO FACILITATE ENTRY OF  
JAPANESE INVESTMENT AND RELAX INTERNAL CONTROLS ON  
INVESTORS ACTIVITIES.

9. DCM ASKED WHETHER YOSHINO HAD HEARD EXPRESSIONS  
OF CONCERN ABOUT "U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM ASIA." YOSHINO  
SAID SUBJECT WAS RARELY RAISED DIRECTLY BUT THAT HE  
FELT IT WAS AT THE BACK OF EVERYONE'S MIND AND THAT  
THIS WAS ONE REASON JAPANESE INVESTMENT WAS NOW MORE  
WELCOME.

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MANSFIELD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009